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What's Up With Cloned Beef? Professors Peterson, Tong Explain

The Food and Drug Administration's recent decision that cloned beef, pork, goat, and dairy products from cloned animals are safe for consumption is sparking headlines.

Cal Poly Animal Science Professor Dan Peterson and Cal Poly Dairy Products Technology Center Director and Professor Phil Tong say the decision shouldn't worry consumers or affect foodstuffs.

"I tell people to think of identical twins," Tong explained. Cloning a prize milk cow to create 40 "identical twin" cows for a dairy herd wouldn't change the properties of their milk.

Professor Peterson says there isn't any reason for consumers to be concerned. "From a tangible perspective, it's like many other (livestock) reproductive technologies that the consumer would never know happened."

See Professor Peterson's interview on KSBY TV

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